

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY  
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT  
POLICY

Voluntary \_ Public

**Date:** 6/6/2014

**GAIN Report Number:** IN4041

## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### **GOI Updates Draft Health Certificates for Bovine Germplasm**

**Report Categories:**

Livestock and Products  
Trade Policy Monitoring  
FAIRS Subject Report

**Approved By:**

Joshua Lagos

**Prepared By:**

Radha Mani

**Report Highlights:**

India published two draft health certificates for imported bovine semen and bovine embryos. Both drafts provide new or revised information on import requirements, which are different from previous versions.

## Executive Summary:

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) published two draft health certificates for imported bovine semen and embryos. Both drafts provide new or revised information on import requirements, which are different from previous versions. For example, the genetic disease freedom clause has been removed from both certificates. According to DADF officials, the new draft health certificates have been forwarded to the World Trade Organization (WTO) for comment. However, to date, the draft has not yet been published on the WTO website.

## General Information:

**Disclaimer:** This summary is based on a  *cursory* review of the subject announcement and, therefore, should not under any circumstances be viewed as a definitive interpretation of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural trade interests.

DADF recently published two draft health certificates for imported bovine semen and embryos. Both drafts provide new or revised information on import requirements, which are different from previous versions. For example, the drafts include additional options for disease certification, information for statements regarding zonal freedom from animal diseases, and sample collection and testing for specific diseases. Additionally, DADF removed the genetic disease freedom clause from both certificates.

According to DADF officials, the new draft health certificates have been forwarded to the World Trade Organization (WTO) for comment. However, to date, the draft has not yet been published on the WTO website. Both revised draft health certificates are below.

For more details, please refer to: [Notification on Draft Health Certificate for the Import of Bovine Semen](#) and [Draft Health Certificate for the Import of Bovine Embryos](#) (available online at: <http://www.dahd.nic.in/>).

Prior versions of both health certificates can be accessed via the following reports:

<a href="#">IN9056</a>	<a href="#">GOI Releases Veterinary Certificate for the Import of Bovine Embryos</a>
<a href="#">IN9072</a>	<a href="#">Amendment to India's Import Protocol on Bovine Semen</a>

[TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF INDIA, EXTRA ORDINARY IN  
PART II, SECTION 3, SUB SECTION (ii)]

Government of India  
Ministry of Agriculture  
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)

## NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the

S. O. - In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3A of the Livestock Importation Act, 1898 and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries *vide* number S.O.1496 (E) dated the 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2007 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government hereby directs that the import of bovine frozen semen into India shall be regulated in the manner laid down in the Schedule annexed to this notification and subject to the condition

that the imports will only be allowed through the sea ports or airports of Kolkata, Chennai, Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad and Bangalore or other places as may be notified by the Government, where animal quarantine inspection facilities are available.

### Schedule

### A. General Information

Name of the Country	
Ministry/ Department	
Province/District	

### B. Information concerning the donor animal

Name	Species	Date and Place of birth	Breed	Registered entry in the herd/stud book	Date of approval of animal for artificial insemination purposes	Identification mark/number	Date of collection and batch number	Number of doses	Color of straws	Packed size of semen
------	---------	-------------------------	-------	----------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------	-------------------------------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------------------

### C. Origin and Destination of the semen

1	Name and Address of the Producer(Artificial Insemination Centre)	Approval/ Accreditation Number
2.	Name of the approving Authority	
3.	Name of the consignor	
4	Name and postal address of the consignee	
5.	Means of Transport	
6	Date of dispatch	
7	DGFT license No.	Date

Note: All the above general information may be provided by producer and endorsed by official veterinarian of the exporting country.

### D. Sanitary Information

The undersigned Official Veterinarian certifies that the donor animal:-

- (I) shows no sign of diseases on the day of collection and for the following 30 days.
- (II) satisfies the following requirements:
  - 1. (i) the donor animal was born in and is continuously residing in the exporting country(name of the country);  
or  
(ii) the donor animal born in a country(name of the country) having equal or better animal health status than the exporting country(name of the country),
  - 2. **Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)**
    - a) were kept for at least three months prior to collection in an FMD free country/ zone where vaccination is not practiced or a FMD free compartment.  
or
    - b) were kept for at least three months prior to collection in an FMD free country or zone where no other animal present in the artificial insemination centre has been vaccinated within the month prior to collection
  - 3. **Contagious Bovine Pleuro Pneumonia(CBPP)**
    - a) were kept in a CBPP free country, zone or compartment since birth or for at least the past six months.
  - 4. **Lumpy Skin disease(LSD)**
    - a) were kept for at least 28 days prior to collection in an LSD free country.

## **5. Bovine Tuberculosis**

The donor animals showed no signs of bovine tuberculosis on the day of collection of the semen; and either

- a) were kept in an artificial insemination centre free from bovine tuberculosis in a country, zone or compartment free from bovine tuberculosis and which only accepts animal from free herds in a free country, zone or compartment.
- b) showed negative results to tuberculin tests carried out annually and were kept in a herd free from bovine tuberculosis.

## **6. Bovine Brucellosis.**

When the semen is sourced from an artificial insemination centre, the testing programme includes the buffered Brucella antigen and Complement Fixation tests or ELISA;

When the semen is not from an artificial insemination centre, the donor animals:

- a. were kept in a country or zone free from bovine brucellosis;  
or
- b. were kept in a herd officially free from bovine brucellosis, showed no clinical sign of bovine brucellosis on the day of collection of the semen and were subjected to a buffered Brucella antigen test or ELISA with negative results during the 30 days prior to collection;  
or  
were kept in a herd free from bovine brucellosis, showed no clinical sign of bovine brucellosis on the day of collection and were subjected to the buffered Brucella antigen and complement fixation tests or ELISA with negative results during the 30 days prior to collection

## **7. Blue Tongue (BT)**

The donor animals:

- a. were kept in a BT free country or zone or vector-protected establishment for at least 60 days before commencement of, and during, collection of the semen;  
or
- b. were subjected to a serological test according to the OIE Terrestrial Manual to detect antibody to the BTV group, with negative results, at least every 60 days throughout the collection period and between 21 and 60 days after the final collection for this consignment;  
or
- c. were subjected to an Agent identification test according to the OIE Terrestrial Manual on blood samples collected at commencement and conclusion of, and



at least every 7 days (virus isolation test) or at least every 28 days (PCR test) during, semen collection for this consignment, with negative results;

#### **8. Trichomoniasis**

- a) the donor animals have never been used for natural service;  
or

the donor animals have only mated virgin heifers;  
or

the donor animals were kept in an establishment or artificial insemination centre where no case of trichomonosis has been reported;

- b) the donor animals were subjected to a direct microscopic and cultural examination of preputial specimens with negative results

#### **9. Paratuberculosis**

- a) the animal has been kept in a herd where no case of Paratuberculosis has been observed in last two years.  
b) was annually subjected to Delayed Type Hypersensitivity (DTH) or ELISA

#### **10. Bovine genital campylobacteriosis**

the donor animals:

- a) i. have never been used for natural service; or  
ii. have only mated virgin heifers; or  
iii. were kept in an establishment or artificial insemination centre where no case of bovine genital campylobacteriosis has been reported;  
b). the culture of semen and preputial specimens for the presence of the causal agent of bovine genital campylobacteriosis proved negative

#### **11. Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis:**

- a) the donor animals were kept in an IBR/IPV free herd at the time of collection of the semen; or  
b) the donor animals were held in isolation during the period of collection and for the 30 days following collection and were subjected to a diagnostic test for IBR/IPV on a blood sample taken at least 21 days after collection of the semen, with negative results; or  
c) if the serological status of the bull is unknown or if the bull is serologically positive, an aliquot of each semen collection was subjected to a virus isolation test or PCR, with negative results

## **12. Enzootic Bovine Leucosis(EBL)**

- a) the donor bull was resident at the time of semen collection in an EBL free herd; and
- b) if less than two years of age, the bull came from a serologically negative 'uterine' dam; or
- c) the bull was subjected to diagnostic tests for EBL on blood samples on two occasions with negative results, the first test being carried out at least 30 days before and the second test at least 90 days after collection of the semen;

## **13. Leptospirosis**

The donor animal has been annually tested against all prevailing species and those found positive are either removed or given a complete treatment.

## **14. Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD):**

The donor bull has completed the following:

### **a) Prior to entering Pre-entry isolation testing**

The animals should be subjected to:

- i. a virus isolation test or a test for virus antigen, with negative results; and
- a serological test to determine the serological status of every animal.

### **b) Testing in the pre-entry isolation facility prior to entering the semen collection facilities**

- i. The animals should be subjected to a virus isolation test or a test for virus antigen, with negative results. Only when all the animals in pre-entry isolation have had negative results, may the animals enter the semen collection facilities.
- ii. All animals should be subjected to a serological test to determine the presence or absence of BVD antibodies.
- iii. Only if no sero-conversion occurs in the animals which tested sero-negative before entry into the pre-entry isolation facility, may any animal (sero-negative or sero-positive) be allowed entry into the semen collection facilities.

If sero-conversion occurs, all the animals that remain sero-negative should be kept in pre-entry isolation until there is no more sero-conversion in the group for a period of three weeks. Serologically positive animals may be allowed entry into the semen collection facilities.

### **c) Testing programme for bulls and teasers resident in the semen collection facilities**

- i. Animals negative to previous serological tests should be re-tested to confirm absence of antibodies.

Should an animal become serologically positive, every ejaculate of that animal collected since the last negative test should be either discarded or tested for virus with negative results.

**d) Testing for BVD prior to the initial dispatch of semen from each serologically positive bull**

Prior to the initial dispatch of semen from BVD serologically positive bulls, a semen sample from each animal should be subjected to a virus isolation or virus antigen test for BVD. In the event of a positive result, the bull should be removed from the centre and all of its semen destroyed.

**15.Schmallenberg**

the donor animal was kept since birth in a country where Schmallenberg Virus has never been recorded,

Or

the semen has been collected before 01.06.2011

Or

the donor animals were subjected to a serological test to detect antibodies to SBV, with negative results, at least 21 days after the final collection for this consignment.

**16. Vesicular Stomatitis (VS)**

were kept in a VS free country or zone since birth or for at least 30 days prior shipment

Or

were kept for the 21 days prior to, and during, collection in an establishment where no case of VS was reported during that period; and were subjected to a diagnostic test for VS, with negative results, within the 21 days prior to semen collection

*Note: The diagnostic tests described above are not necessary for the country which is free from these diseases (A separate certificate from the country shall be required). Please provide the testing reports also. The tests to be conducted in D (II) are as per the OIE list of tests for international trade*

(IV) the semen comes from a semen collection centre that is accredited and /or approved by the exporting country and has been collected, handled or processed in accordance with the provisions of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the Office International Des Epizooties Chapter "General hygiene in semen collection and processing centres" and processed in accordance with the provisions of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of Office of the International Des Epizootics Chapter "Collection and processing of bovine, small ruminant and porcine semen".



(V) after collection of semen, antibiotics have been added in accordance with the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the Office of the International Des Epizootics Chapter "Collection and processing of bovine, small ruminant and porcine semen". (*provide list of antibiotics with concentration in the semen*).

(VI) the semen is transported in container(s) that are new and " have been cleaned and disinfected in a manner acceptable to Government officials of the exporting country (*name of the country*); the container is not known to contain pathogenic micro-organisms.

(VII) at the time of semen collection, the donor animal had passed all pre-isolation and isolation tests needed for entry into the resident herd at the semen collection centre and had not been used for natural mating since the initiation of these tests.

Official stamp:

Issued at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of Veterinarian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Registration No.

#### **E. POST IMPORT REQUIREMENTS:**

1. On arrival in India, the consignment and the documents will be examined by the Regional Officer/ Quarantine Officer.
2. Samples from semen consignments will be taken for testing including the diseases like Bovine Viral Diarrhoea, Infectious Bronchitis Rhinotracheitis and Brucellosis.
3. In case the documents and test at the quarantine stations are not conforming to the requirements as per the health certificate and the semen is not as per Office International Des Epizooties Terrestrial Animal Health Code specifications, appropriate action shall be taken by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India at the cost of importing agency.

**VETERINARY CERTIFICATE FOR IMPORT OF IN VIVO DERIVED  
BOVINE EMBRYO INTO INDIA ( March 2014)**

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR IMPORTATION**

1. Consignor (Name and address in full)	2. Health certificate  No: _____ Date: _____
3. Consignee (Name and address in full)	4. Country of origin
5. Competent Authority  5.1 Ministry:  5.2 Department	6. Place of loading:
7. Information concerning donor dam and sire : Breed: Name : Date of Birth: Place of Birth : Identification marks : Registered entry in the herd /stud book:	8. Information concerning Embryo  Date of collection:  Quantity and packing of exported embryo(CAN ID):  Collection Team:
9. Name and address of the Registration/ Accreditation authority	10. Place of destination (Name and address in full)
11. Mode of Transport	

**II. Sanitary information**

The undersigned Official Veterinarian certifies that;

1.the country is free from Foot & Mouth Disease (Type C , SAT-1,2,3), Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, Lumpy Skin Disease, Rift Valley Fever.

2.the donor animal –

- a) shows no sign of disease on the day of collection.
- b) satisfies the following requirements:

**1. Bovine tuberculosis (TB)**

- Was kept in a TB free country or zone since birth

Or

- Was kept in a TB free herd and was subjected to a tuberculin test with negative results, performed within 21 to 60 days after embryo collection

Or

- Was subjected to two tuberculin tests (with a gap of minimum 60 days between the tests), first test starting within 21 days to 60 days after the embryo collection

## **2. Trichomonosis**

- Was kept in a Trichomonosis free country since birth  
Or
- The semen used to fertilize the donor comes from a certified Trichomonosis free bull and the donor has never been subjected to natural breeding  
Or
- Direct microscopic examination and culture of vaginal mucus for the presence of causative agent of Trichomonosis with negative result conducted within 21 to 60 days after the embryo collection.

## **3. Paratuberculosis**

- Was kept in a Paratuberculosis free country since birth  
Or
- Was subjected to Delayed type hypersensitivity test (DTH) or ELISA with negative result, within 21 to 60 days after the embryo collection

## **4. Schmallerberg virus infection**

- Was kept in a country where Schmallerberg virus infection has never been reported  
Or
- Was subjected to a serological test (ELISA or Virus neutralization) with negative result, within 21 to 60 days after the embryo collection

5. The embryos have been collected by technicians under the supervision of a veterinarian, who is certified embryo transfer practitioner by the Government or ET Society/Association following hygienic and aseptic precautions in accordance with recommendation of the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS).

6. The embryos have been processed in a laboratory having effective protection against rodents and insects. No embryo of a lesser health status is processed at the same time. The laboratory is under the direct control of a veterinarian and regularly inspected by an official veterinarian.

7. The embryo have been collected from donor which :

a) at the time of collection is inspected by a veterinarian and confirmed to be free of contagious and infectious diseases transmissible to cattle.

b) was born and is continuously residing in the exporting country(name of the country);

or

9. The semen used to inseminate donor animals is derived from a donor bull that meets all the requirements mentioned in the veterinary certificate for import of bovine semen into India.

11. The embryo collection, holding and freezing media are sterilized and free of microorganisms; and

13. Straws are sealed at the time of freezing and labelled:

[illegible]



**\*No testing is necessary in respect of diseases for which freedom status has been certified.**

Official Stamp:

Issued at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and address of Veterinarian  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Post Import Requirements:**

1. On arrival, the consignment and the documents will be examined by the Regional/Quarantine Officer.
2. On arrival into India, the samples will be collected for testing of diseases including Bovine Viral Diarrhoea, Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis and Brucellosis.
2. In case, the documents and tests are not conforming to the requirements and the embryos are not as per OIE specifications, appropriate action shall be taken by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India at the cost of importing agency